

**REMARKS**

A statement that the present application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP03/03095 has been added immediately after the TITLE.

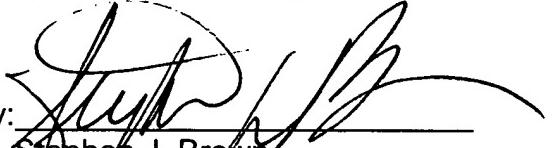
Claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice.

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of the amendments is respectfully solicited.

Favorable action on the merits including entry of the Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits and allowance of all the claims, respectfully, is requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
Stephen J. Brown  
Registration No. 43,519  
BRYAN CAVE LLP  
1290 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10104  
Phone: (212) 541-2000  
Fax: (212) 541-4630